

Whereas these and other industrial accidents have occurred in facilities that were monitored and certified as safe and decent workplaces by private, voluntary corporate social responsibility initiatives invested in by global brands from the United States and Europe;

Whereas female workers are often knowingly exposed to dangerous and life-threatening machinery or toxic substances that are no longer used in developed nations due to their reproductive or general health effects, without even simple safety measures like gloves or face masks; and

Whereas research shows that—

(1) workers who are well-informed about health and safety facilitate safer workplaces; and

(2) legal protections that allow elected labor union representatives of workers to raise safety and other concerns without fear of reprisals are essential for worker safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should—

(1) support policies that create safe and decent jobs in developing countries, which are critical to ensuring peaceful and sustainable economic growth and development in a globalized world;

(2) support policies that reduce gender-based violence, and other forms of discrimination, at work, and that improve the ability of women workers to speak out in defense of their rights without fear of reprisals;

(3) encourage the development of an International Labour Conference Convention to address gender-based violence at work;

(4) promote labor rights in trade agreements and enforce the right of women and other workers to join a labor union to defend their other rights and safety;

(5) use diplomatic means and international aid—

(A) to end violence against women in the workplace; and

(B) to empower women and other workers to participate fully in their economies and to protect their safety; and

(6) encourage United States companies with international supply chains, and Federal agencies involved in procurement, to increase transparency and accountability in order to ensure that products are produced in workplaces that—

(A) work aggressively to end gender-based workplace violence; and

(B) respect the rights of women workers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 427—DESIGNATING APRIL 2016 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ENZI, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 427

Whereas according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (referred to in this preamble as the “FDIC”), at least 27.7 percent of households in the United States, or nearly 34,400,000 households with approximately 67,600,000 adults, are unbanked or underbanked and therefore have not had an opportunity to access savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas according to the FDIC, approximately 30 percent of banks reported in 2011 that consumers lacked an understanding of the financial products and services banks offered;

Whereas according to the 2015 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey final report of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling—

(1) approximately 41 percent of adults in the United States gave themselves a grade of “C”, “D”, or “F” on their knowledge of personal finance;

(2) 75 percent of adults in the United States acknowledged that they could benefit from additional advice and answers to everyday financial questions from a professional;

(3) 24 percent of adults in the United States, or approximately 56,300,000 individuals, admitted to not paying bills on time;

(4) 1 in 3 households reported carrying credit card debt from month to month;

(5) only 39 percent of adults in the United States reported keeping close track of their spending, a percentage that held steady since 2007; and

(6) 13 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough “rainy day” savings for an emergency, and 15 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough money set aside for retirement, as the most worrisome area of personal finance;

Whereas the 2015 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that 24 percent of workers were “not at all confident” that they had enough money to retire;

Whereas according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2015 entitled “Financial Accounts of the United States: Flow of Funds, Balance Sheets, and Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts”, outstanding household debt in the United States was \$14,200,000,000,000 at the end of the fourth quarter of 2015;

Whereas according to the 2016 Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation’s Schools, a biennial report by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 20 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 17 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas according to the Gallup-HOPE Index, only 52 percent of students in the United States have money in a bank or credit union account;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to manage money, credit, and debt; and

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas increased financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Im-

provement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2016 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 428—CONGRATULATING THE 2016 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA COYOTES, FOR WINNING THE 2016 WOMEN’S NATIONAL INVITATION TOURNAMENT

Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 428

Whereas, on April 2, 2016, the University of South Dakota Coyotes defeated the Florida Gulf Coast University Eagles by a score of 71 to 65 in the final game of the Women’s National Invitation Tournament (referred to in this preamble as the “WNIT”) in Vermillion, South Dakota;

Whereas this is the first national title for the University of South Dakota Coyotes since the transition of the University of South Dakota to Division I athletics;

Whereas the Dakota Dome of the University of South Dakota, soon to be replaced with a new complex, hosted its final basketball game before a crowd of 7,415 fans;

Whereas the University of South Dakota Coyotes shot 71.4 percent from beyond the 3-point line and 54 percent overall from the field in their 34-point win in the semifinal of the WNIT;

Whereas senior guard Nicole Seekamp was named most valuable player of the WNIT and averaged 14 points per game throughout the WNIT;

Whereas seniors Tia Hemiller and Nicole Seekamp were each named to the WNIT all-tournament team;

Whereas the 2015–16 season was the fourth season for head coach Amy Williams, during which she won her first national title;

Whereas the University of South Dakota Coyotes finished the 2015–16 season with a record of 32–6; and

Whereas the presence of 5 seniors and 4 juniors on the roster of the University of South Dakota Coyotes represents the commitment of the seniors and juniors to the University of South Dakota and its work to enshrine the ideal of the student-athlete into the ethos of the University of South Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and honors the University of South Dakota women’s basketball team and its loyal fans on the performance of the team in the 2016 Women’s National Invitation Tournament; and

(2) recognizes and commends the hard work, dedication, determination, and commitment to excellence of the players, parents, families, coaches, and managers of the University of South Dakota women’s basketball team.